

TERRENI

LAW FIRM, LLC

CHARLES L.A. TERRENI
ATTORNEY AT LAW

1508 LADY STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
TELEPHONE (803) 771-7228
EMAIL CHARLES.TERRENI@TERRENILAW.COM
WWW.TERRENILAW.COM

October 8, 2021

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk and Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Docket No. 2021-232-T – Application of Gamecock Moving, LLC to Amend Tariff (Rate Increase), Approval of Use of Electronic Bill of Lading, and Request for Waiver of Notice Publication (*See* Docket No. 2019-295-T).

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I write on behalf of Gamecock, LLC (“Gamecock Moving”) in support of the above-referenced application. After ORS reviewed the application, Gamecock Moving changed its proposed tariff as reflected on the amended tariff filed with this letter. The reasons for Gamecock Moving’s requested changes are explained in this letter.

Gamecock Moving’s present tariff was approved nearly two years ago on November 7, 2019, in Order 2019-70, Docket No. 2019-295-T. Gamecock Moving proposes modest increases in its hourly charges and charges for packing materials. Gamecock is requesting to raise its weekday hourly rates for movers and trucks by \$10.00 and its weekend hourly rates by \$5.00. The percentage increase in hourly rates ranges from 2% to 10%. Overnight storage fees would also be raised from \$150 to \$200.00 per truck. Gamecock Moving has also requested permission to increase the price for five items of packing materials and add one item. The price of eight items of packing material remains unchanged. The prices of these materials are not unreasonable and reflect a reasonable markup on the company’s costs, which vary according to market conditions.

Section 1.1. Hourly Rates and Charges						
	Weekday			Weekend (Friday – Sunday)		
Hourly Rates and Charges	Present	Proposed		Present	Proposed	
Two Movers and a Truck	\$100	\$110	10%	\$110	\$115	5%
Three Movers and a Truck	\$130	\$140	8%	\$140	\$145	4%
Four Movers and a Truck	\$160	\$170	6%	\$170	\$175	3%
Additional Movers	\$30	No change	No change	\$30	No change	
Two Trucks and Four Movers	\$210	\$220	5%	\$220	\$225	2%

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Packing Materials	Present Sect. 2.4	Proposed Appendix A	Percent Increase
Boxes (Small, Medium, Large)	\$2.00	\$3.00	50%
Wardrobe Box	\$15.00	\$25.00	67%
Brown Packing Paper	\$10.00	\$10.00	0%
Bubble Wrap (12in x 10in)	\$5.00	\$15.00	200%
Tape	\$4.00	\$5.00	25%
Shrink Wrap	\$20.00	\$20.00	0%
Mattress Bags	\$10.00	\$10.00	0%
Mirror Carton Box	\$5.00	\$5.00	0%
Paper Pads	\$5.00	\$5.00	0%
Wine/Bottle Boxes	\$10.00	\$10.00	0%
TV Boxes	\$25.00	\$25.00	0%
Tall Boxes	\$5.00	\$5.00	0%
Picture Boxes	\$10.00	\$15.00	50%
Moving Blankets	----	\$10.00	---

Gamecock Moving also requests approval of a non-refundable deposit of \$100 to be applied to the cost of a move and a rescheduling fee of \$100 for moves rescheduled within 30 days of the original moving date. These charges are necessary because cancellations and rescheduling requests are very disruptive and costly to Gamecock Moving. Either a cancellation or rescheduling can cause lost opportunities and unrecovered labor costs. The period within which a customer must file a claim for damaged goods has also been shortened from 30 days to 14 days to make it easier to verify the cause of damage. This claim period is reasonable by industry standards.¹

The proposed rates reflect general increases in Gamecock Moving's operating costs, fuel, labor, and packing materials. In 2020, the U.S. economy's inflation rate was 1.4%; it rose to 5.4% in 2021.² Gasoline prices rose 41.8% in 2021.³ Diesel prices rose 38.48% over the past twelve

¹ The Commission recently approved a tariff with a 4-day claim period. Order No. 2021-48-0, Docket No. 2021-148-T. *Application of Robert K. Broadwater, Sr. d/b/a Make The Right Move to Amend Its Tariff*.

² US Inflation Calculator, <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/> (September 7, 2021).

³ Gasoline Inflation in the United States (1968-2021) <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/gasoline-inflation-in-the-united-states/> (September 7, 2021).

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months.⁴ In addition, the unemployment rate in the Columbia Metropolitan Statistical Area, where Gamecock Moving is based, was 4.0% in August 2021, making labor in high demand. South Carolina's recent labor shortage is well documented.⁵

After consulting with the ORS, Gamecock has also changed the proposed bill of lading to delete the maximum compensation of \$60 per item in the standard \$0.60/lb. cargo insurance offering and has replaced insurance Option 2 with an acknowledgment that "Shipper has purchased additional insurance." This change allows the shipper to purchase additional insurance from Gamecock Moving or third-party providers on the terms she sees fit. If approved, these changes will be reflected on the electronic bill of lading.

Gamecock Moving respectfully requests the Commission approve the proposed amendment of its tariff.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

s/ Charlie Terreni

Charles L.A. Terreni

c: Counsel of record
Mr. Dominic Macioce

US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economy at a Glance, Columbia, SC
https://www.bls.gov/regions/southeast/sc_columbia_msa.htm

⁴ US Retail Diesel Price, Week of September 13, 2021;
https://ycharts.com/indicators/us_retail_diesel_price

⁵ See e.g. "Midlands in desperate need for bus drivers as some students wait nearly an hour at bus stops" News19, September 27, 2021,
<https://www.wltx.com/article/news/education/bus-drivers-needed-nearly-hour-wait-at-bus-stops/101-dbb03971-7d53-4850-96a4-e085090d18db>.

"Hospitality among S.C. industries still feeling worker shortage crunch" Columbia Regional Business Report, September 14, 2021.

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